



NATIONAL FFA NURSERY/LANDSCAPE TEAM ACTIVITY

2022 CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENT

Preparation Phase (30 minutes)

There is a huge emphasis across the Nation in the landscape maintenance industry to move away from gas-powered maintenance equipment and use battery-powered equipment. In some states, laws are being introduced to ban the sale of gasoline-powered lawn maintenance equipment. In at least one state, the sale of off-road gasoline-powered engines of less than 24 horsepower will be banned beginning in 2024. The trend is going to affect private homeowners as well. Examples are walk-behind, riding mowers, robotic mowers, string trimmers, leaf blowers, snow removal equipment, pruners and chainsaws. Many commercial clients in urban areas are already putting into their maintenance contracts that maintenance equipment must be battery-powered. Several students in your horticulture class are either working for someone who uses this type of equipment or have a small start-up landscape maintenance business of their own and are using gas-powered machines.

In order to prepare for this change, your nursery/landscape team is to plan and host a night workshop that will provide an opportunity for landscapers, homeowners and anyone interested in becoming familiar with the options they will have in purchasing this type of equipment. This workshop is to be planned for a date before spring when landscape maintenance begins. Among other things, you are to plan the following:

- Make a list of businesses that might sell battery-powered landscape equipment in your area.
- Contact battery-powered landscape equipment dealers and encourage them to provide equipment and a sales spokesperson for the workshop.
- Determine who will head up the workshop event.
- Who will be invited to the workshop?
- When and where will the workshop be held?
- Plan a publicity campaign for the program. What media will you use? What dates will the media be used?
- Plan ways to involve students in your horticulture class.
- Get door prizes from dealers, if possible, to encourage attendance and plan for the door prizes to be incentives for attendance.
- Other ideas for making this a success.

Presentation Phase (15 minutes)

In this phase, you will present your workshop plan **to your FFA Instructor**. The conversation should be informal since you already “know” your instructor well.